Press Statement October 2001

## SUPERFUND CLEANUP CONTINUES AT THE MAXEY FLATS DISPOSAL SITE IN FLEMING COUNTY, KY

The U.S. EPA announced today that cleanup continues at the Maxey Flats Disposal Site in Fleming County, Kentucky to address conditions resulting from storage and disposal of low level radioactive waste from 1963 to 1978. EPA's Record of Decision (ROD) that selected the cleanup remedy was issued in September 1991.

Shortly after the U.S. District Court's activation of Consent Decrees in 1996, the Settling Private Parties initiated implementation of the cleanup. The initial work consisted of removing contaminated leachate from disposal trenches, solidifying the liquid using cement and disposing of the leachate/cement mixture in specially constructed earth mounded concrete bunkers. Removal and disposal of trench leachate was completed in the fall of 2000.

Currently, construction of a 60-acre interim cap and associated surface water and erosion controls is underway. These construction efforts are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2002. Data collected routinely by the Commonwealth of Kentucky under a U.S. EPA-approved plan shows that site controls continue to be protective of human health and the environment.

Following completion of the interim cap, the Commonwealth of Kentucky will implement an extended maintenance period that may last up to 100 years to allow natural stabilization of the disposal trenches before the Commonwealth of Kentucky constructs a final cap. Site maintenance and institutional controls will be the responsibility of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in perpetuity.

U.S. EPA will hold an "Open House" in the fall of 2002 to give the community an opportunity to see construction progress and obtain information concerning future activities. Persons interested in obtaining additional information including a copy of EPA's August 2001 Fact Sheet concerning the Site, are encouraged to contact Derek Matory, Remedial Project Manager for EPA, at 404-662-8800 or EPA's Community Relations Coordinator, at 1-800-435-9233.

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